



**Catherine P. Bessant**  
**Vice Chair, Global Strategy**

Cathy Bessant serves as vice chair and head of Global Strategy at Bank of America, and is a member of the company's executive management team.

In this role, Cathy is responsible for working with our European boards and focused on our global integrated strategy, governance, and client and regulator engagement. She will be based in Paris and provide leadership within and beyond our European presence.

Bessant most recently served as chief operations and technology officer from 2010-2021, responsible for delivering end-to-end technology and operating services across the company through a team of 95,000 people in over 35 countries, with oversight of the company's global information security efforts.

Since joining the bank in 1982, Bessant has held a number of senior leadership roles. She was president, Global Corporate Banking; president, Global Product Solutions and Global Treasury Services; chief marketing officer; president, Consumer Real Estate and Community Development Banking; national Small Business Segment executive; and president of the Florida market.

Bessant serves as executive sponsor for the company's Disability Advisory Council. She was formerly the executive sponsor for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride executive board and led the creation of the LGBT Ally program. She was previously named No. 1 among OUTstanding LGBT+ Ally Executives, presented by the Financial Times.

After ranking No. 1 for three consecutive years, Bessant was inducted into the "25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" Hall of Fame by American Banker in 2020. Bessant was named to Barron's "100 Most Influential Women in U.S. Finance" and she received WatersTechnology's 2019 Women in Technology and Data Trailblazer Award. She has also appeared on Working Mother magazine's "50 Most Powerful Working Moms" list.

Active in the community and region, Bessant received the Distinguished Service Award from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. In addition, she was awarded the North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine, was recognized by the Charlotte Business Journal with the Women in Business Lifetime Achievement Award, and was named to Business NC's Power 100. She chairs the North Tryon Vision Plan Advisory Committee and is co-chair of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing & Homelessness Strategy.

Bessant serves on the board of directors of Zurich Insurance Group, serves as chair of the USA Field Hockey board of directors, is on the board of trustees for the Urban Institute, and is on the advisory board for the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. As part of a leadership course at Ross, she summited Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro, the world's tallest freestanding mountain, in 2018.